

Inside Your Third

The Newsletter for the Third Taxing District Electric Department

2 Second Street • East Norwalk, CT 06855

Your Commission

David L. Brown
Chairman

Stephen M. Feinstein
Commissioner

Paul S. Coggin
Commissioner

John A. Stoops
Treasurer

Upcoming Events

- Jan. 26th TTD Commission Meeting at 7:00 pm at Van Zilen Hall 51 Van Zant Street
- Feb. 9th TTD Commission Meeting at 7:00 pm at Van Zilen Hall 51 Van Zant Street
- Feb. 23rd TTD Commission Meeting at 7:00 pm at Van Zilen Hall 51 Van Zant Street
- March 3rd Annual Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at St. Thomas Hall East Avenue
- March 15th TTD Commission Meeting at 7:00 pm at Van Zilen Hall 51 Van Zant Street
- March 29th TTD Commission Meeting at 7:00 pm at Van Zilen Hall 51 Van Zant Street

The Commission lists Accomplishments for 2003

In calendar year 2003 this Commission undertook some of the most aggressive additions, repairs and restorations to our infrastructure and motor pool in years. Listed below is just a sampling of the improvements we have made to your Electrical Department

Emergency generator installed

An 80 kilowatt generator was installed at the District office. With its automatic engine start capabilities, it replaced a system that was over 40 years old that had to be started by hand.

Substation cable upgrades

Transformers in East Avenue and Rowan Street substations were repaired. The two substations were tied together with larger interconnect wiring.

Rowan St fence replacement

Keeping with Siting Council guidelines, the deteriorating fence around the Rowan Street substation was replaced.

Radix Meter Readers implemented

Computerized hand-held meter reading devices have been purchased to make data collection faster and more accurate.

Street Light upgrades

Replaced many of our mercury vapor lights with sodium vapor lights saving energy and providing better lighting.

New Auger Truck

This new digger truck replaced one that was outdated and inoperable. We now dig our own utility pole holes.

Meter audit

Completed district wide meter audit of the reliability and installation of all commercial electric meters.

Defibrillator training

Placed portable defibrillators on two of our line trucks and trained entire field staff on their usage.

New lineman hired

Hired a trained and certified lineman to immediately bring our field crew up to strength.

Customer Account Analyst hired

A new position was created in our office staff. We now have immediate, on-site financial analysis of our day to day operations..

CPA accountant

We now have a better division of responsibilities and better accounting checks and balances.

Accounting system conversion

We have converted our internal accounting system from an ancient DOS based program.

Energy Conserving Light Bulbs

The cost of electricity in New England has risen dramatically in the past year and promises to be even higher this year. The cost of fuel and the transmission problems in South Western Connecticut are combining to drive up electric prices.

The consortium we buy electricity from: the Connecticut Municipal Electrical Energy Cooperative (CMEEC) - continues to aggressively purchase energy futures in an ongoing attempt to defray the escalating cost of electricity in the Fairfield County area.

In addition, we withdraw money from your Rate Stabilization Fund each month to offset the higher cost of electricity we are paying compared to what we charge you.

And now you can help also. You can fight back by conserving energy and using energy wisely. One way to use energy wisely is by lighting your home with new compact fluorescent bulbs in the lights that are on the longest. You can make a significant difference in your monthly usage.

We think using these bulbs in your home is such an important energy saving technique, we have partnered with local outlets to make these compact energy efficient bulbs available to you at a drastic discount. As a TTD Electric Department customer you are eligible to benefit from special discount pricing on certain Energy Star qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs at Brandman's Paint & Decorating, Home Depot and Costco.

Using the bulbs offers the following advantages:

- They use 66% less energy than a standard incandescent bulb.
- They last up to 10 times longer.

Take advantage of this special energy saving offer today. Look for the "Energy Star" display at these local stores and buy as many as you need. They already have the discounted price applied. You'll be glad you did.

More Cold Weather Energy Saving Tips

- Clean or replace filters on furnaces once a month or as needed.
 - Clean warm-air registers, baseboard heaters, and radiators as needed; make sure they are not blocked by furniture, carpeting, or drapes.
 - Bleed trapped air from hot-water radiators once or twice a season.
 - Place a heat-resistant radiator reflector between exterior walls and the radiators.
 - Use kitchen, bath, and other ventilating fans wisely; in just 1 hour, these fans can pull out a houseful of warmed or cooled air. Turn fans off as soon as they have done the job.
 - During the heating season, keep the draperies and shades on your south-facing windows open during the day to allow the sunlight to enter your home and closed at night to reduce the chill from the cold windows.
 - Close an unoccupied room that is isolated from the rest of the house, and turn down the thermostat or heating for that particular room or zone.
 - However, if you heat your house with a heat pump, do not close the vents—closing the vents could harm the heat pump. Select energy-efficient equipment when you buy new heating and cooling equipment.
 - Look for high Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE) ratings and the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER). The national minimums are 78% AFUE and 10 SEER.
 - If you use duct tape to repair and seal your ducts, look for tape with the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) logo to avoid tape that degrades, cracks, and loses its bond with age.
 - Remember that insulating ducts in the basement will make the basement colder.
 - Consider insulating both the ducts and the basement walls.
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